

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 3, with the following amended paragraph.

One example of a beak treatment station is described in U.S. Patent No. 5,651,731 (Gorans et al.). Other examples of beak treatment stations 592 are described in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,375,814; 4,446,819; and 4,951,610 (all to Gourlandt). It should be understood that in some instances, the beak treatment station 592 may involve treatment of the upper beak alone, the lower beak alone, or the upper and lower beaks (either simultaneously or sequentially). Examples of beak treatment stations may also be described in, e.g., U.S. Patent Application No. 10/346,981, titled APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR UPPER AND LOWER BEAK TREATMENT, filed January 17, 2003 and U.S. Patent Application No. 10/702,369, titled BEAK TREATMENT WITH TONGUE PROTECTION, filed on November 6, 2003.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 19, with the following amended paragraph.

Additional examples of types of processing stations that may be used in the system include, but are not limited to inoculation stations (such as, for example, the stations described in U.S. Patent Application No. 10/702,988, titled APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR NASAL DELIVERY OF COMPOSITIONS TO BIRDS, filed on November 6, 2003), gavage stations, marking stations, tissue sampling stations, diagnostic stations, etc.

Preliminary Amendment

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For: AUTOMATED HATCHLING PROCESSING METHOD AND SYSTEM

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheets of drawings, which include Figures 1-7, replace the original sheets including Figures 1-7. No substantive changes have been introduced.